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Conservative environment committee member Vellacott touts adaptation funding to counter climate change

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OTTAWA – Yesterday in Indonesia at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change, Minister Baird, on behalf of himself and Ministers Lunn, Strahl and Clement, announced that Canada's Conservative Government will be spending \$85.9 million over four years to help Canadians adapt to climate change. He was joined by two of Canada's Eminent Advisors in Indonesia, Mary Simon and Ian Morton.

Maurice Vellacott, MP for Saskatoon-Wanuskewin stated that Canada is in this way showing the world that leadership on climate change means going first and taking action at home.

Vellacott indicated that even the most ambitious efforts on fighting climate change cannot prevent the warming that is expected to continue in the short term.

Vellacott said, "That's why we are taking this action with \$85.9 million in new money to help Canadians adapt to our changing climate."

Vellacott reiterated that the Conservative Government will apply this \$85.9 million dollars toward:

*\$15 million for research to improve climate change scenarios;

*\$14 million for a program to assist Northerners in assessing key vulnerabilities and opportunities for adaptation;

*\$7 million for climate change and health adaptation in northern / Inuit communities;

*\$14.9 million to develop a pilot climate and infectious disease alert and response system to protect the health of Canadians from the impacts associated with a changing climate; and

*\$35 million for risk management tools for adaptation and to support the development and implementation of regional programs.

Vellacott concluded, “After 13 years of talk on the environment by Stephane Dion and the Liberals, this Conservative Government is actually getting things done through practical measures such as this adaptation funding to counter climate change.”

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